

From: [Cllr Langford-Smith](#)
To: [Aquind Interconnector](#)
Cc: [Cllr Andreoli](#); "SCornwell@winchester.gov.uk"
Subject: Comments for the Open Floor (7th Dec) and Issue Specific (9th Dec) Hearings
Date: 30 November 2020 15:39:36
Attachments: [1\) Village Legacy.docx](#)
[2\) Preservation of Gap.docx](#)
[3\) Impact on SINC.s.docx](#)
[4\) Impact of Building.docx](#)

Please find attached Denmead Parish Councils outline of issues.

Kind regards
Paula

Paula Langford-Smith
Chairman
Denmead Parish Council

Remarks to Aquind Hearing on Village Legacy 07-12-20

As has already been remarked, whilst the residents of Portsmouth, Havant and East Hampshire will suffer short term disruption whilst the cables for the interconnector and the associated fibre-optic communication cable are laid, the residents of Denmead Parish will not only endure this, but will also be faced with a 26 metre tall building sited within the Parish for 40 years or more.

The Draft Development Control Order lays out how the developer intends to install the cables and build the Interconnector facilities but there is no consideration whatever given to the community which faces this intrusion.

It would seem that the only legacy the Parish of Denmead can look forward to is the buildings on the outskirts of the parish.

There is no Employment and Skills plan and no opportunity for the residents to gain employment and training as a benefit of the interconnector.

There is no offer of any form of benefit for the Parish, no offer of compensation, no acknowledgement whatsoever from the developer that they will be having any effect on Denmead.

The Draft Development Control Order asks for an exemption on noise nuisance legislation with no indication if this noise might be during development, or for the

whole 40+ years of the life of the project. During initial consultations between the developer and the Parish of Denmead they were specifically asked if the interconnector would produce a noise sufficient to cause the residents nuisance – it was denied that there would be any increase in noise level above that which already exists in the area. Some members of the community complain of the 'Denmead Hum' which they can hear emanating from the Lovedean substation. Are we therefore to expect that the only benefit to Denmead Parish of the Interconnector is an increase in noise levels with no compensation?

Thank You

Remarks to Aquind Hearing on Preservation of the Denmead Gap 07-12-20

For many years District and Local plans, including the Denmead Neighbourhood Plan, have all made provision for the 'Denmead Gap', a designated local gap designed to prevent the coalescing of the Town of Waterlooville in the Havant District with the Village and Parish of Denmead in the Winchester District.

The Denmead Gap is not just a physical gap between the two settlements, it is a distinct and clear rural divide between the urban western edge of Waterlooville, and the rural eastern edge of Denmead Parish. The B2150 Hambledon Road is the main route across the Gap, and this is the route chosen for the Aquind cable. The B2150 as it leaves Waterlooville takes on a distinct rural character, being lined with hedgerows and significant trees, and having no street lighting.

In the Draft Development Consent Order the developer has asked for permission to ignore Tree Protection Orders, despite claiming they will respect such protections. The DDCO also proposes building a compound off either the North or South side of the B2150 at the entrance to Denmead, to facilitate the drilling operations for the cable through the meadows between Hambledon Road to the south and Anmore Road to the north.

Such a compound will require the removal of the hedgerows and possibly some of the Protected Trees which line the entrance to Denmead and emphasise the change from urban to rural character. Whilst the hedgerows can be replanted, they will take

many years to return to the current character of the view at the entrance to Denmead, and any loss of significant trees will not be replaced for decades or longer.

We ask that the Draft Development Control Order be significantly modified to prevent the loss of the rural character of the entrance to Denmead.

Thank You.

Remarks to Aquind Hearing on Impact on SINC's 09-12-20

The Draft Development Control Order and plans presented by the developer call for two compounds to be established at either end of the meadows between the Hambledon and Anmore Roads in Denmead Parish to enable the drilling works which will install the interconnector cables under said meadows.

There is still some doubt as to where the compound will be situated at the Hambledon Road end, but the Anmore Road proposal is for the entrance to the compound to be 15 metres wide to the south of Anmore Road into the meadows which are being protected by drilling instead of trenching!

This 15-metre entrance is in addition to the width of cable run being drilled. This will result in the loss of more than 20 metres of hedgerow on the south of Anmore Road. Whilst this can be replanted, it will take many years to recover the look of the area.

The whole of the meadow area between Hambledon Road and Anmore Road is designated as a Site of Importance in Nature Conservation and so this northern compound is being proposed on the very land that the drilling operation is meant to protect.

If the compound on the Hambledon Road is also placed in the meadows then both compounds will be built on the SINC land, causing severe damage and destruction of protected natural habitats.

If the drilling operation was carried out to and from the north side of Anmore Road, then the northern part of the SINC would be protected, and there would be no requirement to trench the cable across the Anmore Road, also saving many weeks of disruption on this narrow rural lane.

Thank You.

Remarks to Aquind Hearing on Impact of the Buildings 09-12-20

Whilst the residents of Portsmouth, Havant and East Hampshire will suffer short term disruption whilst the cables for the interconnector and the associated fibre-optic communication cable are laid, the residents of Denmead Parish will endure this too, but will also be faced with a 26 metre tall building sited within the Parish for 40 years or more.

The Draft Development Consent Order suggests that far from blending in with the landscape, the applicant is proposing a bright colour scheme for the buildings. It is surely only sensible to try to mask the edifice with subdued non-reflective colours. This site will not only be visible from the immediate locality, but if brightly coloured it would stand out as an eyesore from the top of nearby Portsdown Hill. It should be camouflaged by suitable colour and planting schemes.

This leads me on to the aspect of flora around the site. The construction of the buildings on the site will result in the loss of trees and hedgerows and whilst the applicant has suggested that replacement planting will be made, there is no clear definition of how this new planting will be preserved to ensure it is maintained and not allowed to die, nor be removed by a subsequent landowner when the construction is completed. The Draft Development Consent Order should present a clear and binding long-term plan for the management of all the trees and hedgerows around the site, particularly those which are meant to help the buildings blend in with the landscape.

The Draft Development Control Order makes no binding provision for the decommissioning of the station and its removal at end-of-life. There should be a binding agreement defining when the station will have reached end-of-life and a further agreement on how the site is to be cleared and the land returned to open downland if not agricultural use. It is suggested that end-of-life be defined by a suitable period of time where no significant power flow in either direction has occurred on the interconnector. Provision should be made to ensure the planting made during the construction phase, which will have matured for 40 years, is not lost during decommissioning and removal.

Thank You.